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NASHVILLE—Commissioner of Labor & Workforce Development Michael E. Magill today announced that the March unemployment rate is 4.1 percent, unchanged from last month and still lower than the national average. The U.S. rate registered 4.3 percent, which increased by one-tenth of a percentage point.

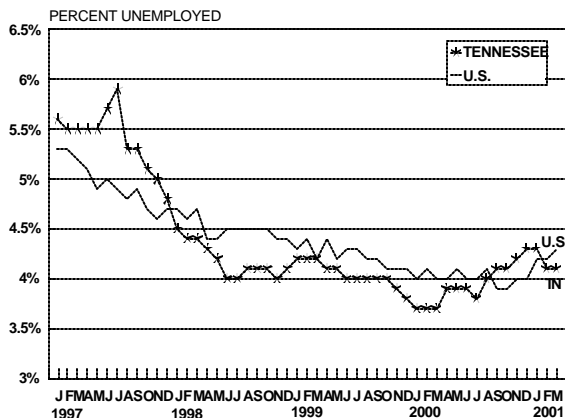
“Tennessee’s employment picture remains stable,” Magill reported. “We continue to see job growth in several sectors, including services and trade, even in today’s tight labor market.”

The state’s jobless rate was 3.7 percent at this time last year, while the national average was 4.0 percent.

February to March is considered a transitional month, caught between the holiday decline and the beginning of the tourist season; however, the state registered increases in services by 8,100 jobs, mainly in amusement/recreation and business services, and trade by 3,800, with the majority in eating and drinking places. Construction increased by 2,300, which is a normal seasonal increase. Local education hit a record employment level at 131,300 jobs.

A comparison of March 2000 to March 2001 figures showed an increase of 21,300 jobs in the services industry; trade added 13,100, and transportation grew by 4,800 jobs. Employment declines over the year took place in local government, which was down by 15,400, due to the inclusion of temporary election poll workers in March 2000. Manufacturing also had employment declines in both apparel and electronic/electric equipment.

**UNEMPLOYMENT RATES - U.S. & TENNESSEE**  
**JANUARY 1997 - PRESENT**  
(seasonally adjusted)



## LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES SUMMARY - TENNESSEE

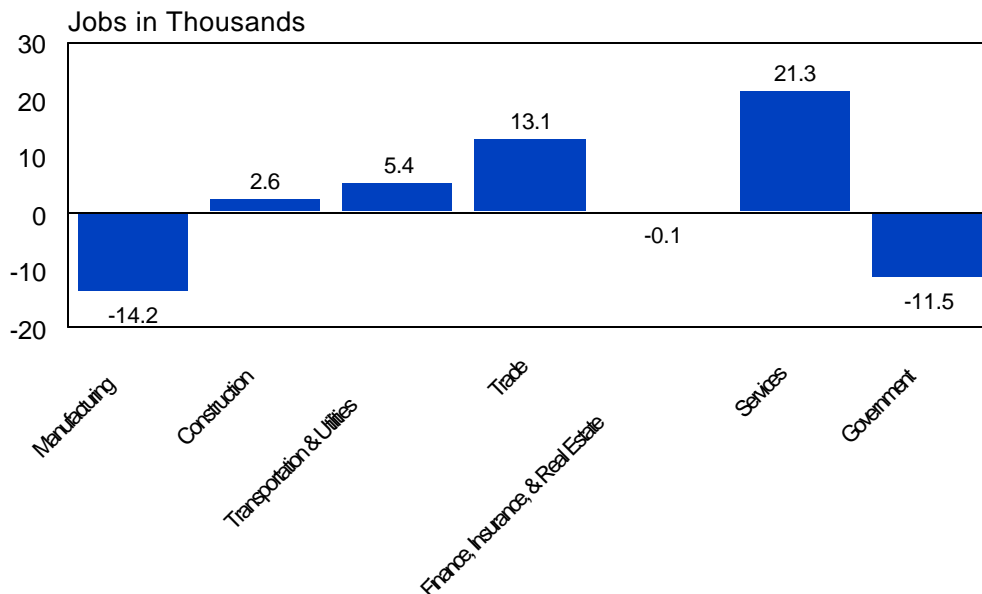
March 2001 (preliminary) - BM 2000

Seasonally Adjusted	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate		Rate Change
				Mar.	Feb.	
UNITED STATES	141,868,000	135,780,000	6,088,000	4.3 %	4.2 %	0.1 %
TENNESSEE	2,857,600	2,741,700	115,900	4.1	4.1	0.0

Not Seasonally Adjusted						
UNITED STATES	141,751,000	135,298,000	6,453,000	4.6 %	4.6 %	0.0 %
TENNESSEE	2,840,800	2,723,200	117,600	4.1	4.4	-0.3

## OVER THE YEAR JOB GROWTH

By Major Industry (March 2000-2001)



Note: Government is down over the year due to the inclusion of temporary election poll workers in March 2000.

**County and MSA rates will be released on Thursday, April 26, 2001.**

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**NOTE:** Information will be available on the Internet; enter "[http://www.state.tn.us/labor-wfd/labor\\_figures](http://www.state.tn.us/labor-wfd/labor_figures)." Sound may be obtained from the Governor's NewsLine at 1-800-342-1483 or Nashville area 741-4877.

**NOTE:** Tennessee's employment and unemployment statistics are based on two major surveys. The Current Population Survey (CPS) is a survey by place of residence providing estimates on the number of people in the labor force, total employment, unemployment, and the unemployment rate. Beginning in January 1992, the CPS data are seasonally adjusted for all states as directed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The business survey collects data by place of work and creates information about jobs in various industries. The business survey data are non-seasonally adjusted at this time.

The Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development is an equal opportunity employer. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.

El Departamento del Trabajo y de la Fuerza Laboral es un organismo empresarial que aplica la igualdad de oportunidades. Los Servicios y ayudas auxiliares están disponibles para los individuos con impedimentos si los solicitan.